# **Quarterly Benefit Statistics**

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board 844 North Rush Street Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092 Published by the Bureau of the Actuary and the Office of Public Affairs

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## Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Programs

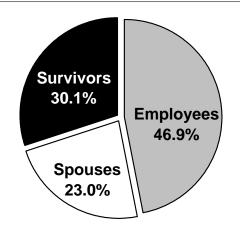
Selected Current Statistics for October - December 2002

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Railroad Retirement and Survivor Beneficiaries on the Rolls, by Type, December 2002

(633,000 beneficiaries)



**NOTE.**--Approximately 4,600 employees also received spouse annuities and approximately 3,100 employees also received survivor annuities.

Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
October - December 2002

	Employee annuities							
		Total <sup>1</sup>	Disability			Spouse annuities	Divorced spouse	
Period	Monthly benefits	Monthly beneficiaries	Age	Age under 65	Age 65 and over	Supple- mental		annuities
Number in current-pa	ayment status at en	d of period						
December 2002	772,407	633,071	215,122	45,060	36,903	131,661	146,752	3,517
November 2002	772,736	633,340	215,247	44,893	36,852	131,717	146,780	3,523
October 2002	774,057	634,511	215,597	44,799	36,900	131,856	147,082	3,500
Average amount in c	urrent-payment sta	tus at end of period						
December 2002			\$1,521.03	\$1,866.66	\$1,390.13	\$42.04	\$592.80	\$359.99
November 2002			1,502.37	1,843.28	1,371.70	42.05	586.04	355.40
October 2002			1,499.23	1,841.28	1,369.04	42.06	585.08	354.49
Number awarded du	ring period							
December 2002	2,702	2,282	586	409		420	608	19
November 2002	3,156	2,614	718	344		542	684	44
October 2002	3,430	2,816	748	437		614	740	36
10/02 - 12/02	9,288	7,712	2,052	1,190		1,576	2,032	99
10/01 - 12/01	8,109	6,997	1,579	1,163		1,112	1,763	96
Average amount awa	arded during period	2						
December 2002			\$2,161.73	\$2,260.61		\$41.43	\$749.37	\$404.53
November 2002			2,147.13	1,986.46		40.91	720.08	386.01
October 2002			2,172.90	2,053.35		41.41	712.18	372.54
Benefit payments du	ring period (thousa	ınds)						
December 2002	\$731,890		\$323,476	\$86,131	\$50,438	\$5,558	\$86,628	\$1,287
November 2002	732,149		323,924	86,419	50,386	5,526	86,741	1,328
October 2002	733,026		323,629	87,184	50,383	5,585	87,024	1,316
10/02 - 12/02	2,197,064		971,029	259,734	151,207	16,669	260,393	3,931
10/01 - 12/01	2,102,255		930,110	239,522	147,323	16,950	252,509	3,789

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Includes dependent parents' and survivor (option) annuities. Except for benefit payment data, excludes insurance lump-sum and residual payment figures. <sup>2</sup>Regular employee and spouse annuity averages are preliminary estimates.

**NOTE.**--MONTHLY BENEFITS in CURRENT-PAYMENT STATUS at the end of month include all benefits awarded to date and payable for the month. BENEFITS AWARDED consist of those certified for the first time on either a partial or final basis.

BENEFIT PAYMENTS for a month, shown in both the benefit and financial statistics, consist of recurrent monthly checks dated the first of the month, plus retroactive and lump-sum payments made during the month, less returned checks (excluding those not yet distributed by Account), refunds of benefits paid previously, etc. Data are on a cash basis (unaudited) and are partly estimated.

Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
October - December 2002 -- Continued

				Survivor b	enefits			
			Annuit	ies				
Period	Aged widows and widowers	Disabled widows and widowers	Widowed mothers and fathers	Remarried widows and widowers	Divorced widows and widowers	Children	Insurance lump sums	Residual payments
Number in current-pa	nyment status at end	of period						
December 2002	159,108	5,222	1,077	5,572	9,542	12,808		
November 2002	159,399	5,221	1,100	5,598	9,530	12,814		
October 2002	159,972	5,232	1,113	5,606	9,529	12,807		
Average amount in c	urrent-payment statu	s at end of period	i					
December 2002	\$961.52	\$808.45	\$1,234.70	\$636.81	\$642.36	\$740.72		
November 2002	953.47	800.92	1,234.58	628.46	633.22	731.01		
October 2002	950.98	799.66	1,233.74	627.55	633.24	729.62		
Number awarded dur	ing period							
December 2002	531	20	8	9	48	44	368	6
November 2002	668	13	15	21	55	52	395	8
October 2002	686	17	17	23	52	60	421	4
10/02 - 12/02	1,885	50	40	53	155	156	1,184	18
10/01 - 12/01	1,948	44	31	76	170	126	1,211	15
Average amount awa	rded during period <sup>2</sup>							
December 2002	\$1,332.36	\$1,346.17	\$1,143.36	\$646.56	\$694.99	\$921.64	\$874	\$4,186
November 2002	1,308.74	1,177.80	1,508.16	824.95	655.42	1,017.29	896	4,179
October 2002	1,305.35	1,061.48	1,024.99	679.39	660.77	987.10	888	2,485
Benefit payments du	ring period (thousand	ds)						
December 2002	\$152,665	\$4,549	\$1,402	\$3,546	\$6,195	\$9,630	\$321	\$25
November 2002	152,173	4,280	1,507	3,566	6,107	9,752	367	34
October 2002	152,259	4,316	1,463	3,568	6,117	9,747	385	10
10/02 - 12/02	457,097	13,145	4,372	10,680	18,419	29,129	1,073	69
10/01 - 12/01	437,175	12,484	3,957	10,597	17,610	28,966	1,101	48

NOTE .-- (Continued from previous page.)

FOR WIDOWS and WIDOWERS aged 60 and over and WIDOWED MOTHERS and FATHERS, the number of benefits being paid and benefit payments include benefits temporarily being continued at spouse annuity rates, pending award of survivor annuities.

INSURANCE LUMP SUMS and RESIDUAL PAYMENTS are each counted only once with respect to an employee's death even though divided among 2 or more persons. Award data for insurance lump sums exclude deferred benefits, i.e., those payable a year after the employee's death.

Data on benefit payments are for CALENDAR MONTHS; all other data are for ACCOUNTING MONTHS ending on approximately the 20th of each month.

Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics
October - December 2002 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)

October 2001 December 200
_
\$18,907,163
606,129
527,183
59,000
285,878
-6
119
-266,045
1,070,097
771,208
285,707
12,548
634
18,443,195
\$61,722
19,682
19,100
582
17,439
16,950
465
24
63,965

Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics
October - December 2002 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued

Item	December 2002	November 2002	October 2002	October 2002 - December 2002	October 2001 - December 2001
	SOCIAL SECURITY EQU	JIVALENT BENEFIT A	ACCOUNT		
Balance at beginning of period	\$1,923,946	\$1,958,526	\$1,890,905	\$1,890,905	\$1,822,735
Income, total	462,809	399,903	502,708	1,365,421	1,308,691
Payroll taxes <sup>2</sup>	181,752	158,097	180,452	520,301	503,571
Income tax transfers <sup>3</sup>			39,000	39,000	22,000
Financial interchange advances <sup>9</sup>	276,491	237,273	278,820	792,585	766,635
RRB-SSA financial interchange transfer					
Financial interchange adjustment					
Interest on investments <sup>6</sup>	4,566	4,533	4,435	13,535	16,485
Outgo, total	434,177	434,483	435,088	1,303,748	1,282,616
Benefit payments	432,412	433,298	433,554	1,299,264	1,277,215
Repayment of financial interchange advances 9					
RRB-CMS financial interchange transfer					
Transfers to National RR Investment Trust					
Administrative expenses <sup>7</sup>	1,680	1,130	1,437	4,247	5,126
Funding for Office of Inspector General	85	55	97	237	275
Balance at end of period	1,952,579	1,923,946	1,958,526	1,952,579	1,848,810
	<b>DUAL BENEFITS</b>	PAYMENTS ACCOUN	NT <sup>10</sup>		
Balance at beginning of period	-\$22,447	-\$11,273			
Congressional apportionments <sup>11</sup>	(12)	(12)	-\$5,000	-\$4,999	-\$999
Income tax transfers <sup>3</sup>			5,000	5,000	1,000
Vested dual benefit payments	11,078	11,175	11,273	33,526	36,881
Balance at end of period	-33,525	-22,447	-11,273	-33,525	-36,881

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Balances include liabilities for uncashed checks. As of the end of December 2002, liabilities were \$8,584,000. <sup>2</sup>Net of U.S. Treasury adjustments for payroll tax refunds to certain carriers and their employees for prior periods. <sup>3</sup>Amounts include U.S. Treasury adjustments for prior calendar year income tax reconciliations. <sup>4</sup>Net of amounts distributed by account. <sup>5</sup>Net of returns of uncashed check credits. Includes undistributed canceled checks under 1-year limited payability. <sup>6</sup>Net of adjustments for payroll tax refunds (see note 2). RR Account: Amounts reflect changes in market value of zero coupon bonds. <sup>7</sup>Reflects adjustments for prior periods. <sup>8</sup>Source: National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust. <sup>9</sup>Includes interest. <sup>10</sup>Total vested dual benefits paid during a fiscal year are limited to the amount appropriated to the Dual Benefits Payments Account for that year. Any amounts not spent are returned to the U.S. Treasury. The benefit appropriation for fiscal year 2003 was \$131.1 million, including income tax transfers. The benefit appropriation for fiscal year 2002 was \$146.0 million. Funds for October through December 2001 and 2002 were provided under a continuing resolution. <sup>11</sup>Includes a small amount of interest on uncashed checks. <sup>12</sup>Less than \$500.

NOTE .-- Data relate to CALENDAR month.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

Table 3: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Benefit Statistics
October - December 2002

Normal benefit accounts				E		
Period	Applications received	Opened	Exhausted	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits
		-	Unemployment			
December 2002	2,281	2,024	91	6,080	6,048	64
November 2002	1,921	1,089	66	4,341	4,321	42
October 2002	1,408	767	47	3,623	3,559	121
7/02 - 12/02	10,577	7,722	356	9,260	9,148	436
7/01 - 12/01	11,887	7,575	320	9,660	9,576	374
			Sickness			
December 2002	1,652	1,533	102	7,690	7,646	82
November 2002	1,668	1,346	74	7,445	7,419	68
October 2002	1,975	1,714	68	7,712	7,650	141
7/02 - 12/02	17,906	14,038	559	14,981	14,712	1,043
7/01 - 12/01	17,874	14,178	565	15,264	15,010	1,067

	Number of payments			Averages <sup>1</sup>		
	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	Benefit days	Benefit per week	Benefit payments (thousands)
			Unemployment			_
December 2002	10,795	10,659	136	8.8	\$256.95	\$5,143
November 2002	6,424	6,337	87	8.8	257.25	3,535
October 2002	6,812	6,570	242	8.9	255.55	3,311
7/02 - 12/02	41,898	39,916	1,982	8.8	256.15	20,364
7/01 - 12/01	37,274	35,667	1,607	8.6	247.20	17,789
			Sickness			
December 2002	15,816	15,638	178	9.0	\$258.20	\$4,633
November 2002	12,653	12,509	144	9.2	258.15	4,273
October 2002	15,342	15,078	264	9.2	257.60	5,657
7/02 - 12/02	83,648	79,523	4,125	9.0	258.10	27,250
7/01 - 12/01	85,601	81,223	4,378	9.1	248.30	30,180

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Benefit days--average benefit days per registration period. Benefit per week-equal to 5 times average daily benefit.

(Continued on next page.)

**NOTE.**--An unemployment claimant files only one APPLICATION for a benefit year. A sickness claimant files an APPLICATION at the beginning of each period of continuing sickness. NORMAL BENEFIT ACCOUNTS are opened when the first payment is made.

The number of BENEFICIARIES is the count of persons receiving unemployment or sickness benefits in the period. Those receiving both normal and extended benefits for unemployment or sickness are counted only once in the total for each type.

PAYMENTS generally cover 14-day registration periods. Benefits are payable for days over 7 during an employee's first 14-day registration period. Sickness benefits are paid for days of sickness after the 4th consecutive day of sickness in the first claim in each period of continuing sickness; for subsequent registration periods in the same period of continuing sickness, payments are made for all days of sickness over 4 whether or not consecutive. Unemployment benefits are paid for days of unemployment over 4. However, in the case of unemployment benefits due to a legal authorized strike, unemployment benefits are not paid until after a 14-day waiting period. Non-strikers unemployed due to an illegal strike must also serve a 14-day waiting period.

Table 4: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Financial Statistics
October - December 2002 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)

Item	December 2002	November 2002	October 2002	October 2002 - December 2002	October 2001 - December 2001
R	AILROAD UNEMPLO	YMENT INSURANC	E ACCOUNT		
Balance at beginning of period	\$32,866	\$40,507	\$19,368	\$19,368	\$28,409
Income, total	6,054	227	30,202	36,483	19,339
Contributions	55	241	29,182	29,478	12,891
Interest on investments	503	21	400	923	587
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments <sup>1</sup>	-149	-35	620	437	-873
Transfers from Administration Fund	5,645			5,645	6,734
Outgo, total	9,868	7,868	9,064	26,800	27,463
Unemployment benefit payments	5,143	3,535	3,311	11,988	11,196
Sickness benefit payments	4,633	4,273	5,657	14,564	16,006
Funding for Office of Inspector General	92	59	95	247	262
Balance at end of period	29,051	32,866	40,507	29,051	20,285
	LOANS DUE RAILRO	DAD RETIREMENT	ACCOUNT		
Balance at beginning of period	\$8,053	\$8,031	\$8,008	\$8,008	
Loans from Railroad Retirement Account					
Interest accrued	23	22	23	68	
Repayments from UI Account, total					
Principal					
Interest					
Balance at end of period	8,076	8,053	8,031	8,076	
RAILRO	AD UNEMPLOYMENT	INSURANCE ADM	INISTRATION FUN	ID	
Balance at beginning of period	\$12,010	\$12,765	\$8,043	\$8,043	\$8,011
Income, total	177	44	5,556	5,777	5,197
Contributions	11	44	5,556	5,611	5,050
Interest on investments	166			166	148
Outgo, total	6,828	799	834	8,461	8,597
Administrative expenses	1,184	799	834	2,816	1,862
Transfers to RUI Account	5,645			5,645	6,734
Balance at end of period	5,358	12,010	12,765	5,358	4,612

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Net of distributed amounts.

**NOTE**.--(Continued from previous page.)

BENEFIT PAYMENTS are on a cash basis (unaudited) and represent amounts paid during the period including retroactive payments, less recoveries distributed to beneficiary accounts, refunds, and cancellations of previous payments.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

ADMINISTRATION FUND balances reflect current adjustments to income and disbursements for previous years.

All unemployment and sickness data relate to CALENDAR MONTHS.

## **Table 5: Benefits and Beneficiaries -- December 2002**

#### **RETIREMENT - SURVIVOR**

Total benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$731,890,000
Regular benefits	715,254,000
Vested dual benefits	11,078,000
Supplemental annuities	5,558,000

	Number	Average
Total benefits being paid at end of month	772,000	
Retired employees':		
Regular	297,000	\$1,557
Supplemental	132,000	42
Spouses' and divorced spouses'	150,000	587
Aged widows' and widowers'	159,000	962
Other survivors'	34,000	722
Total beneficiaries being paid at end of month	633,000	

### UNEMPLOYMENT-SICKNESS

	Unemployment	Sickness
Benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$5,143,000	\$4,633,000
Beneficiaries	6,100	7,700
Average payment per week	\$257	\$258